



**Code: 9169**  
Family: Public Safety  
Service: Public Safety  
Group: Police Service  
Series: Police General Duty

## **CLASS TITLE: POLICE OFFICER (ASSIGNED AS MOUNTED PATROL OFFICER)**

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS**

Under general supervision, Mounted Patrol Officers enhance the Chicago Police Department (CPD) by providing highly visible security and sense of assurance where there are large crowds (concerts, public events, demonstrations), as well as having the ability to survey a wider area from being above the crowd and more easily spot potential disturbances; and performs related duties as required

Positions assigned to this classification must maintain other requirements, knowledge, skills, and abilities for successful performance in the Police Officer class.

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

- Patrols assigned areas such as streets (may involve some traffic control), parks and other areas where a higher view elevation, and speed enhances protection over a wide area. Ensures control and safety by helping to control areas where a criminal event has occurred, or provide additional security around an accident site
- Works in concert with officers on foot, the Mounted Patrol facilitates the ability of the Chicago Police Department to monitor, control, and if required to effectively address unruly groups within assemblies, demonstrations, or other events/areas (i.e., festivals, parades, major tourist areas)
- Carries out many standard duties of a Police Officer such as ensuring safety, responding to and conducting preliminary information gathering, establishing control and making arrests if required
- Fills out reports similar to other police in terms of notating issues that were addressed / arose during patrol duty, as well as reports regarding tickets, arrests, public warnings, etc.
- Ensures daily that the assigned horse is groomed, watered, and fed. Also, responsible for carrying out a general health inspection (eyes, teeth, hooves, physical condition of the horse), as well as ensuring stall is clean and that all observed changes in the horse are reported promptly to the Training staff and immediate supervisor
- Prepares horse for assignment; washing, grooming, clipping, ensuring clean hooves and dock, then tacking-up the horse for duty
- Attends specialized training as required, and stays abreast of various issues related to the care of horses
- May carry out other functions such as honor guard for a visiting dignitary, or at a funeral of an Officer

**NOTE:** *The list of essential duties is not intended to be inclusive; there may be other duties that are essential to particular positions within the class.*

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

#### **Education, Training, and Experience**

- Be a Police Officer below the rank of Sergeant, have a minimum of three (3) years of continuous service as a Police Officer with the City of Chicago

**CLASS TITLE: POLICE OFFICER (ASSIGNED AS MOUNTED PATROL OFFICER)**

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- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is preferred

**Formal Chicago Police Department Training to Be Completed Before Assigned Patrol or Other Mounted Patrol Duties**

- Each officer is required to successfully complete a 200-hour equestrian training/certification program prior to being considered for assignment to the Mounted Patrol Unit. This training course covers basic and advanced equitation skills, tactics, equine physiology and psychology, equine care and first aid, and all of the equestrian duties a mounted officer could be assigned.

**Licensure, Certification, or Other Qualifications**

- Must pass the training and examination procedures for the Mounted Patrol Officer
- Must maintain the ability to safely ride a Police horse within the City of Chicago
- Must maintain the ability to safely handle and use a Department approved firearm

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

- Police facility environment
- Working with horse as "partner" and as a team
- There will be work periods in a barn with exposure to dust, equine dander, hay
- Assignment anywhere within the boundaries of the City of Chicago
- Assignment Duty hours may be any time. Department operates twenty-four (24) hours a day, every day of the year, including weekends and recognized holidays
- Interact with public in a variety of situations
- Exposure to outdoor weather conditions including extreme weather situations
- Exposure to hazardous or life-threatening situations

**EQUIPMENT**

- Horse – grooming equipment (brushes, combs, picks), bridle, saddle (including stirrups and irons), saddle pads, saddle-bags, reflectors, nose guard & visor set, leg protectors, etc.
- Officer – Required to purchase and maintain in clean serviceable order: gauntlet gloves, mounted police campaign hats (winter/summer), helmets, breeches, dress blouse, specialized jackets and coats, specialized duty holster and equipment, specialized rain gear, boots, spurs, and when required (leg guards, thigh protectors, helmet shields, etc.)
- When in office completing reports - Standard office equipment (e.g., telephone, printer, photocopier, fax machine, calculator, adding machine)
- Computers and peripheral equipment (e.g., computer terminals, printers) used at Unit HQ

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Using muscular force to lift, carry, drag, push or otherwise move objects using strength in one's arms, hands, back, shoulders and/or legs
- Using the necessary force to restrain a person when making an arrest
- Quickly bending, stretching, twisting, or reaching out with one's body, arms, and/or legs
- Standing for extended or continuous periods of time
- Sitting for extended periods of time
- Walking for extended periods of time

**CLASS TITLE: POLICE OFFICER (ASSIGNED AS MOUNTED PATROL OFFICER)**

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- Remaining mounted for extended periods of time
- Safely and lawfully operating automotive and specialty vehicles and associated equipment
- Hearing and recognizing the normal range of sounds in terms of loudness, pitch, tone, patterns or rhythms, or duration
- Remaining alert or vigilant and reacting to infrequent but important events or specific details within a stream of information (e.g., alarms, radio)
- Seeing detail at various distances (e.g., normal reading distance, beyond arm length) and reading ordinary/small print
- Must pass all phases of the selection process, including a medical evaluation, drug screen, and physical agility and performance tests
- Possess the physical agility and stamina to pass a rigorous 14-week Mounted Unit training program
- Maintain physical condition through exercise and training to carry out the physical duties of a Police Officer (Assigned as Mounted Patrol Officer)
- Possess the physical stamina to ride year-round in adverse weather (rain, snow, severe cold and heat) for extended periods of time
- Possess the psychological capacity and riding skills necessary to perform crowd management techniques in dense crowds and hostile environments
- Maintain the highest level of professionalism, appearance and demeanor at all times
- Possess the ability to speak to an array of audiences relative to the history and mission of the Mounted Unit
- Possess required skill, strength and agility to work with a horse in various conditions
- Possess required skill, strength and agility to lift and stack bales of hay, feed, and bedding that may weigh between 45-60 pounds each
- Possess the physical strength and stamina to strip and muck stalls, clean waste products, and install fresh bedding
- Clean and maintain Mounted Unit vehicles, trailers, equipment, and facilities including changing tires, switching trailers, cleaning / washing inside trailers as required
- Tolerate continual contact with equine dander, droppings and waste products
- Demonstrate proficiency in operating Mounted Unit vehicles with two and four horse trailers attached
- Maintain and demonstrate a riding proficiency level to be tested bi-annually

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND OTHER WORK REQUIREMENTS****Knowledge****Comprehensive knowledge of:**

- Equine Care and Maintenance (including equine first aid)
- Mounted Police Horsemanship
- Mounted Patrol Communications
- Mounted Patrol Formations and their application
- Crowd Management and Control theories and practices

**CLASS TITLE: POLICE OFFICER (ASSIGNED AS MOUNTED PATROL OFFICER)**

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- Arrest and Mitigation procedures while mounted
- Safety practices and procedures for mounted and dismounted Officers
- Limitations and Liabilities of the Mounted Patrol
- Mounted Patrol Unit inclement weather policies and procedures
- Chicago Police Department's Mounted Patrol history and mission
- Controlling of a horse in an urban environment (including heavy traffic, planned and unplanned large gatherings, City events, and demonstrations)

**Good knowledge of:**

- Equine physiology and psychology
- Building a strong working relationships with your mount
- Other aspects of general horsemanship and their disciplines (natural horsemanship techniques)
- \*general powers and authorities of law enforcement officers, including public safety and security procedures and strategies to effectively enforce laws and protect lives and property
- \*federal, state and municipal criminal and traffic laws and ordinances and related departmental policies, directives, and resources
- constitutional and other legal protections associated with investigative and interviewing processes
- evidence protection, recovery, and collection procedures and techniques
- notification requirements, systems, and procedures used for internal reporting and communication with external agencies
- processing of persons under Department control, including handling of special populations
- \*practices and procedures used in community policing
- \*geographical locations in the City of Chicago
- \*traffic operations and City's street address grid
- \*Mounted and ground traffic control management
- Knowledge of applicable City and Department policies, procedures, rules, regulations, and ordinances

**Skills**

- \*CRITICAL THINKING – Use logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems
- \*MATHEMATICS - Use mathematics to solve problems
- \*COMPLEX PROBLEM SOLVING – Identify complex problems and review related information to develop and evaluate options and implement solutions
- \*JUDGEMENT AND DECISION MAKING – Consider the relative costs and benefits of potential actions to choose the most appropriate one
- \*ACTIVE LEARNING - Understand the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making

**CLASS TITLE: POLICE OFFICER (ASSIGNED AS MOUNTED PATROL OFFICER)**

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- \*RESOLVING CONFLICTS AND INFLUENCING OTHERS - Resolve disputes between groups and individuals; negotiate with others to influence behaviors, opinions; deal effectively with various members of the public; handle upset and injured victims, get people to cooperate
- \*ORGANIZATIONAL AWARENESS AND COMMITMENT - Remain firm in one's allegiance to the Department's core values and faithful in pursuit of the Department's mission despite obstacles or opposition; follow Department policies and regulations and show support for their intent and value; demonstrate positive regard for the Department and personal role; show respect for members in positions of authority; work in a chain-of-command environment
- \*SERVICE ORIENTATION – Actively look for ways to help people
- \*FINE MOTOR SKILLS to work with sources in various conditions of quality, use of tools such as small ones to lift fingerprints

**Abilities**

- \*COMPREHEND ORAL INFORMATION – Listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences
- \*PUBLIC SPEAKING - Make formal presentations before large or small audiences
- \*SPEAKING – Communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand
- \*ACTIVE LISTENING – Give full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times
- \*COMPREHEND WRITTEN INFORMATION – Read and understand information and ideas presented in writing
- \*WRITE – Communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand.
- \*MEMORIZATION – Remember information such as words, numbers, picture, and procedures
- \*RECOGNIZE PROBLEMS – Tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong
- \*REACH CONCLUSIONS – Combine pieces of information to form general rules or conclusions (includes finding a relationship among seemingly unrelated events)
- \*MAKE DECISIONS AND SOLVE PROBLEMS – Analyze information and evaluate results to choose the best solution and solve problems
- \*DETAIL ORIENTATION – Accurately tracking and reviewing significant amount of data points, and accurate record processing

**Other Work Requirements**

- \*ANALYTICAL THINKING – Analyze information and use logic to address work or job issues and problems
- \*ATTENTION TO DETAIL – Pay careful attention to detail and thoroughness in completing work tasks
- \*COOPERATION – Be pleasant with others on the job and display a good-natured, cooperative attitude
- \*CONCERN FOR OTHERS – Demonstrate sensitivity to others' needs and feelings and be understanding and helpful on the job
- \*SELF CONTROL – Maintain composure, keep emotions in check even in very difficult situations, control anger and avoid aggressive behavior

**CLASS TITLE: POLICE OFFICER (ASSIGNED AS MOUNTED PATROL OFFICER)**

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- \*STRESS TOLERANCE – Accept criticism and deal calmly and effectively with high stress situations
- \*PERSISTENCE – Persist in the face of obstacles on the job
- \*DEPENDABILITY – Demonstrate reliability, responsibility, and dependability and fulfill obligations
- \*INITIATIVE – Demonstrate willingness to take on job challenges
- \*INTEGRITY – Be honest and avoid unethical behavior
- \*ADAPTABILITY/FLEXIBILITY – Be open to change (positive or negative) and to considerable variety in the workplace
- \*LEADERSHIP - Demonstrate willingness to lead, take charge, and offer opinions and direction

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All employees of the City of Chicago must demonstrate commitment to and compliance with applicable state and federal laws, and City ordinances and rules; the City's Ethics standards; and other City policies and procedures.

The City of Chicago will consider equivalent foreign degrees, accreditations, and credentials in evaluating qualifications.

\* May be required at entry.

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City of Chicago  
Department of Human Resources  
November, 2020